

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN US VQ

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF 24: US VIRGIN ISLANDS

1. ONLY SPEAKER AT SUBCOMMITTEE II OF COMMITTEE OF 24 MEETING MAY 12 PM WAS ABDULJALI OF INDONESIA. SPEAKER ACKNOWLEDGED THAT US VIRGIN ISLANDS ENJOYED FAVORED STATUS, BUT SITED ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS. GREATEST SOURCE OF PROBLEMS, IN HIS VIEW, WAS ALIEN IMMIGRATION. CITING "ORGANIZATION OF CONCERNED VIRGIN ISLANDERS, INC. "LITERATURE, ABDULDALIL SAID THAT EXPECIALLY IN RECESSION, IMMIGRATION TAXES AVAILABLE SERVICES, AND INCREASES UNFAIRLY COMPETITION FOR JOBS. PROBLEM IS NOT THE NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS, BUT THE SHORT TIME IN WHICH THEY HAVE COME. MEASURES SHOULD BE ADOPTED, WITHOUT CUTTING OFF IMMIGRATION ENTIRELY. ADMINISTERING POWER SHOULD REVIEW IMMIGRATION POLICY WITH LOCAL OFFICIALS, LEADING TO DECREASED IMMIGRATION. US VIRGIN ISLANDS' ECONOMY NEEDS DIVERSIFICATION AND THE INCREASED MANUFACTURING WHICH HAS BEEN REPORTED IS AN ENCOURAGING SIGN. THE AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL SERVICES MUST BE INCREASED. THE USG SHOULD PROVIDE MORE AID. EDUCATION NEEDS IMPROVEMENT. SPEAKER WAS HOPEFUL THAT SOLUTIONS WOULD EVENTUATE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. ON POLITICAL SIDE, CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM, HE SAID, NEEDS NEW EFFORT, REGARDING WHICH A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WOULD BE A PROMISING STEP. ABDJULDJALIL CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT INVITATION FOR UN VISITING MISSION TO US VIRGIN ISLANDS WOULD BE MOST WELCOME.

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